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(54) Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR CELL DISRUPTION

(57) Abstract: An apparatus for disrupting cells or viruses comprises a container having a chamber for holding the cells or viruses. The container includes at least one flexible wall defining the chamber. The apparatus also includes a transducer for impacting an external surface of the flexible wall to generate pressure waves in the chamber. The apparatus also includes a pressure source for increasing the pressure in the chamber. The pressurization of the chamber ensures effective coupling between the transducer and the flexible wall. The apparatus may also include beads in the chamber for rupturing the cells or viruses.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 C12M3/08

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 C12M

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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X	GB 938 163 A (BOOTS PURE DRUG COMPANIE LIMITED)	55,60,65
Y	claims	1,6-8, 12-15, 55,60,61
E	US 6 100 084 A (BELGRADER PHILLIP ET AL) 8 August 2000 (2000-08-08) column 2, line 8 - line 36; claims; figures	55,60,61
A	WO 96 15446 A (CUSACK PETER JOHN ;BAJENOV NICHOLAS (AU); COLLINGS ANTHONY FRANCIS) 23 May 1996 (1996-05-23)	
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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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Y	claims 1-4; figures	1,6,8, 14,15, 55,60,61
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Y,P	claims 5-11,31-46	1,7,8, 12,13
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